

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare: that my citizenship, residence and post office address are as stated below; that I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one is named below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the invention entitled:

FLANGED JOINT

the specification of which was filed on September 25, 2004 as PCT/EP2004/002143.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior Foreign Application(s):			Priority Claimed
<u>203 16 372.9</u>	<u>Germany</u>	<u>23 October 2003</u>	<u>Yes</u>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year)	Yes/No

I hereby appoint as principal attorneys all practitioners associated with **Customer No. 23646** to prosecute and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected with this application and any related United States and international applications.

Please direct all communications to the following address:

CUSTOMER NO. 23646

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

INVENTOR:

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05-03-2007
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